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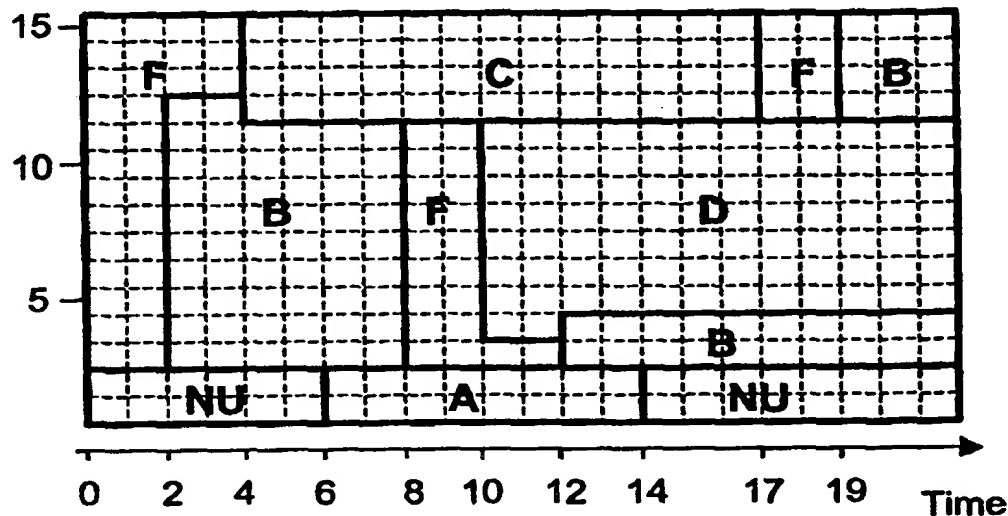
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(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUSES FOR ALLOCATING TIME SLOTS TO CIRCUIT-SWITCHED CHANNELS



(57) Abstract

The present invention relates to methods and apparatuses for allocating time slots to circuit-switched channels established to comprise one or more respective time slots in a recurrent frame of a time division multiplexed network. According to the invention, a time slot allocated to said channel is associated with a selected level, of at least two available levels of priority. Decisions as to whether or not to deallocate said time slot from said channel is then based upon a comparison of said selected level of priority and a level of priority associated with a request for a time slot for another channel.